

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for the careful consideration given the present application. The application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office action, and amended as necessary to more clearly and particularly describe the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The Examiner objected to the ABSTRACT because it should appear on a separate page. Applicant notes that the ABSTRACT has been corrected.

The Examiner rejected claims 5 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. 112. Applicant notes that claims 5 and 22 have been corrected.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-24 under 35 U.S.C. 102 (e) as being unpatentable over Stern (U.S. Pat. No. 6,366,914). Stern does not teach all the limitations of claims 1, 22 and 23. More specifically, Stern does not teach a digital broadcast system where service information defines a structure between contents providers and reference information to manage the storage of the contents. Applicant directs the Examiner's attention to FIGURE 1A and to column 4, lines 17-59. Stern teaches a digital storage system where the content from the content providers 102, 104, 106 and 108 is stored in a Network Management Center (NMC) prior to distribution to a commercial sales outlet 130. The NMC simply maintains a database of products then digitizes the information and then provides it to a Network Operations Center (NOC). Stern does not teach a system that utilizes reference information to relate contents to a service to facilitate the management of the contents. Therefore, Stern does not teach a digital storage broadcast system where service information defines a structure between contents providers and reference information to manage the storage of the contents. Applicant therefore, respectfully contends that Stern does not teach the limitations of claims 1, 22 and 23. Applicant further notes that claims 2-21 depend either directly or indirectly from independent claim 1 and claim 24 depends from independent claim 23. Therefore, the foregoing arguments are equally applicable to these dependent claims and all arguments are incorporated herein by reference.

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition

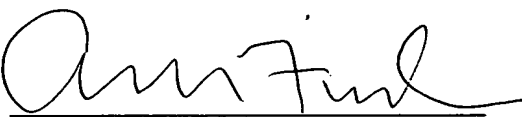
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Amdt. Dated June 7, 2004
Reply to Office action of March 24, 2004

for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is determined that the application is not in a condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with the undersigned attorney to expedite prosecution of the present application.

If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, our Order No. 33714.

Respectfully submitted,

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